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NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1942.

NEWHAVEN

June 17th, 1943

NEWHAVEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR
ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1942

To the members of the Newhaven Urban District Council.

Madam & Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1942.

During the year 1942, the general health of the District was good, and there was freedom from any serious infectious disease.

The Crude Death Rate was 14.7 compared with 15 in 1941

The Senile Mortality was 63 compared with 56 in 1941.

The chief causes of death were Heart disease 22, Intracranial vascular lesions 12, Cancer 9 and Bronchitis 6.

The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was .58 as compared with .4 in 1941.

The Birth Rate was 20.7 as compared with 17 in 1941. There were 3 illegitimate births; and there were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality of 47 compared with 70 in 1941.

33 cases of Infectious disease were treated at the Isolation Hospital. There was 1 death.

Social Conditions of the District

The chief industries in the District are as follows:-

Southern Railway Company

Dock & Harbour Works.

Building Trades.

Valentine Pen Company.

Many workers are also employed at the Alpha Cement Works situate a short distance outside the District.

My thanks are due to the members of the Council for their unfailing courtesy, and to the Officials for the ready aid extended to me in the performance of my duties.

I am, Madam & Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

Newhaven.

(signed) Rodie Parkhurst.

17th June, 1943.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area.....1766 acres.
 Population - Census 1931.....7383
 Population Estimated.....5129
 Number of inhabited houses.....1915
 Number of families or separate occupiers2014
 Rateable value.....£44,879.
 Sum produced by a penny rate.....£173.16.10.

2. EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Births - Legitimate M - 55 F - 49) total 107
 Illegitimate M - 2 F - 1)
 Still births M - 1 F - 2 - 2 illegitimate.

Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 births - 47.
 Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth - Nil.
 Deaths from Zymotic disease - Nil.

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE DURING THE YEAR 1942

During the year 1942 there were 16 cases of notifiable disease excluding Tuberculosis - they were as follows: Measles 1, Diptheria 2, Scar-let Fever 11, Pneumonia 1, Enteric Fever 1.

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1942, WITH AGE PERIOD

AGES	DIPHTHERIA	SCARLET FEVER	PNEUMONIA	ENTERIC FEVER	MEASLES.
0-1					
1-5	1				
1-15		9			
15-25	1				
25-35		2	1		1
35-45				1	
55-65					
65 & over					
Totals	2	11	1	1	1

TABLE OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1942 AND DEATHS THEREFROM

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1	1	1	1					
5								
15		2				1		
25								
35	2				1			
45	1							
55						1		
65 & over								
Totals	4	3	1		1	2		

4.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS

There were no particular causes of sickness during the year 1942. The total number of infectious diseases notified was 16 as compared with 18 in 1941. There were 11 cases of Scarlet Fever and 2 of Diphtheria. The Crude Death rate was 14.7 as compared with 15 in 1941. The sanile Mortality was 63 as compared with 56 in 1941. The infantile mortality was 47 as compared with 70 in 1941.

The birth rate was 20.7 as compared with 17 in 1941.

The chief causes of death were as follows:- Heart disease 22 Cerebral Haemorrhage 12, Bronchitis 6, Cancer 9.

5.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL & OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT

The Newhaven and District Nursing Association supply two Queen's Nurses and one health visitor. One Queen's Nurse carries out the General Nursing of the District and part of the Rural District; the other Queen's Nurse is Midwife for the Town, and gives relief duty to the other Nurses when needed. The Health visiting is carried out by the Health Visitor. The nursing is carried out by the Local Authority assisted by a grant from the County Council. There is also a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre; meetings are held where the mothers can attend with their infants for instruction in their upbringing. This Centre is carried on by the Health Visitor assisted by the Town Midwives.

CLINICS The Health Visitor attends the School Clinic and also the Dental and Eye Clinic held at the Schools, under the arrangements made by the County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES A motor ambulance is provided by the Lewes, Newhaven & Seaford Joint Hospital Board for the conveyance of infectious diseases to the Isolation Hospital, and an up-to-date motor ambulance is provided by the Newhaven Urban District Nursing Association for the removal of non-infectious and accident cases. This ambulance is available for use in the Urban District and surrounding districts.

HOSPITALS There is no Hospital in the district for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The Isolation Hospital is provided for the reception of cases of infectious disease occurring in the Town and Port and from the districts represented by the Joint Hospital Board. This hospital receives a grant from the County Council under the condition that cases should be received from certain outlying districts should their own hospitals be full.

The Smallpox Hospital is the East Sussex Western Hospital situated at Chailey, to which the Newhaven Urban District Council contributes a subsidy.

There is no Maternity or Childrens Hospital in the District, nor any Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate or homeless children.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL - JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD

This Hospital is in a satisfactory condition; a new tubical block and fresh drainage would, however, be a great improvement.

During the year 1942, the number of cases under treatment was 33, and I append a table of the cases treated.

District etc.	Diphtheria & suspected.	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Total.
Lewes	5	4		9
Newhaven	2	10		12
Seaford	1			1
Military & Naval	6	3	2	11

There was one death from malignant scarlet fever.

LABORATORY WORK

6. No bacteriological or pathological examinations are undertaken locally, but arrangements are in force with Dr. Shera, East Sussex County Mental Hospital, Hellingly, Sussex, for the examination of all specimens, the charge for which is borne by the Newhaven Urban District Council. All Medical Practitioners in the District are supplied with diphtheria anti-toxin free of cost.

7. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA - LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890 Parts i, ii, iii.
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Acts 1890.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) 1907 Parts iv, vi, ix and X.
 Section 15-22 inclusive and 28 and 31, 32 and 33 of Part 2,
 and Section 81 of Part 7.
 Private Street Works Act 1892.

WATER SUPPLY

The District has two sources of water supply.

1. From Newhaven & Seaford Water Co. which obtains water from a well sunk into the chalk at Poverty Bottom.
 2. From the Southern Railway Company's well at Denton.
- Both of these water supplies have been analysed regularly, and quarterly reports show them to be of good quality - there is also a sufficient quantity.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

All premises in the District are provided with water closets connected with the sewer, with the following exceptions:-

Premises with Cesspools.

West Pier	3
Cemetery	1
Court Farm Cottages.....	3
Harbour Heights Estate.....	46
Added area.....	185

Premises with earth closets

Meeching Court Farm.....	6
New Road.....	17
Golf House.....	1
Fort Glacis.....	3
Bungalow, Church Hill.....	1
Denton Village.....	32

SCAVENGING

House refuse is disposed of by the Bradford Tipping System which has proved to be satisfactory, the refuse being buried daily.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT AND THE WORK OF THE INSPECTOR DURING THE YEAR 1942

The following is the number of houses visited by the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1942:

In connection with Infectious diseases.....7
Various.....25

Abstract from the Sanitary Inspector's report:-

The Sanitary Inspector carries out regular inspections of the District, and I subjoin extract from his report. The Sanitary Inspector reports that during the year 1942 he has made 1,242 visits in connection with his work. In respect of these visits 63 informal notices and no formal notices were served. Complaints during the year numbered 62, all of which were dealt with and the conditions remedied. I append a table of the number and nature of the inspections carried out during the year 1942:-

Housing - Dwellings inspected under the Housing Acts	153
Total visits under the Housing Acts.....	221
Visits under the Public Health Acts.....	28
Visits in respect of vermin and disinfection.....	28
Visits in respect of infectious disease and disinfection..	25
Visits in connection with nuisances and complaints.....	62
Common Lodging House Inspections.....	5
Water supply inspections.....	11
Drainage inspections.....	105
Visits in respect of refuse collection and disposal.....	52
Sanitary Convenience inspections.....	47
Miscellaneous sanitary visits.....	119
Stables and Piggeries inspected.....	4
Slaughter House and Knackers Yard Inspections.....	8
Factory and Workshop inspections.....	5
Rat investigations.....	73
Cowshed Inspections.....	36
Dairies inspected.....	14
Bakehouse inspections	53
Food premises inspected.....	181
Restaurants inspected.....	12

SUMMARY OF WORK AFTER SERVICE OF NOTICE

1, 242

Water closets new.....	3
Water closets repaired.....	6
Cesspools cleaned.....	3
Drainage system new with sprinkler plant.....	1
Drains cleared or repaired.....	16
Accumulations of refuse removed.....	5
Cooking ranges repaired.....	2
Rooms of dwelling houses cleaned.....	10
Dustbins provided.....	6
Sinks and lavatory basins repaired.....	1
Roofs repaired.....	2
Dampness remedied.....	1
Food stores provided.....	1
Coppers provided.....	1
	<u>56</u>

SHOPS & OFFICES

All shops and offices are regularly inspected and with the exception of minor items are found to be satisfactory.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

- (1) Number of Houses infested.....Council Houses - Nil
Other houses.... 22.
- (2) Method employed to disinfest - Cimex Cubes and Pyagra.
- (3) All furniture and effects successfully disinfested.
- (4) All occupiers instructed by Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS: The Sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory, and the water supply is good and adequate. There is a need for the provision of a new school building in the district, as since the admission of the Scholars from Peacehaven, it has been necessary in the Boys' School to hold two classes in one room, which is not a satisfactory condition.

All cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever are removed to the Isolation Hospital, and contacts excluded for the prescribed periods. Notices of non-notifiable disease are sent to the Medical Officer of Health by the Head Teachers so that any steps considered advisable may be taken.

PREMISES & OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS & REGULATIONS

1. Lodging Houses There is only one lodging house in the district. This is licensed for the reception of 43 people and inspections of the premises are carried out.
2. Dairies and Cowsheds There are three dairy farms in the district and the conditions generally have been found satisfactory, during the inspections which are regularly carried out. The Sanitary Inspector has made 36 cowshed inspections during the year and given two informal notices and 14 dairy inspections and given one informal notice. There are now only 8 registered retailers and 2 wholesale traders for the sale of milk.
3. Slaughter of Animals Under Government Central Slaughtering this is carried out at Brighton for this District. All pigs slaughtered for local Pig Clubs are examined.

FOOD

- A. Milk Supply The premises from which milk is supplied retail to the district receives special attention. Samples were taken from three producers and one retail trader. Two samples from producers and one from retail trader were not satisfactory. After supervision and advice on the method of milking, and handling, each case became satisfactory. One producer has installed mechanical milking machinery.
- B. Other Foods All premises where food is prepared for sale are inspected regularly, and their condition has been found to be satisfactory except in some minor detail when verbal instructions has sufficed to better the condition. There are 6 bakehouses in the District, all of which are above ground.

The Public Health Officers of the Council consist of a Medical Officer of Health, part time, and a Sanitary Inspector, full time. The Staff of the Isolation Hospital comprises a Matron, a Trained Nurse, two assistant nurses, one cook, and one maid. The Hospital is taken over by the Lewes, Newhaven & Seaford Joint Hospital Board, and the Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

No action was taken under these Regulations during the year. I append a table of General Statistics for the past ten years.

	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Population estimated to middle of year.	5129	4993	6889	7112	7062	6989	7060	6989	6936	6486
Birth Rate per 1000 of the population	20.7	17.0	15.2	15.3	15.0	15.1	12.6	13.7	14.7	14.1
Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1000 births.	47	70	57	18	Nil	66	22.5	10.4	20	43.5
Crude death rate per 1000 of population	14.7	15	14.8	12.6	11.9	10.3	11.7	12.4	11.5	15.0
Adjusted death rate per 1000 population	-	-	13.6	11.5	10.9	9.47	10.7	-	-	-
Zymotic death rate per 1000	-	.2	-	-	0.14	0.14	0.25	0.14	-	-
Death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1000	.58	.4	.29	.56	.56	.4	.4	.7	.43	.77
Death rate from other respiratory diseases per 1000	1.6	1.8	1.7	1	.4	.7	.8	1.6	1.4	1.6
Senile Mortality deaths at 65 and over as percentage of total deaths	63.	56	44	58	60.7	52.8	61.7	48.0	62.8	60.0

DISINFECTION

Premises where cases of infectious disease have occurred are disinfected with formalin. In cases of cancer of tuberculosis, disinfection is carried out after removal of the Patient.

Infected bedding and clothing are treated at the Isolation Hospital in the steam disinfecter.

SANITARY OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health - Rodie Parkhurst, M.B., C.M. Edin.

Sanitary Inspector. - S.V. Needham, C.S.I.B., C.R.S.I., D.R.I.P.H.H.
Inspector of meats and Other foods.

Newhaven.

(signed) Rodie Parkhurst.

June 17th, 1943.

Medical Officer of Health.

